relative values of various methods of cure including most of those adopted in England and America and these improvements are gradually being adopted by the curers. The station also successfully demonstrated that fish oil and fertiliser could be separated effectively and profitably with the aid of a simple and inexpensive plant. This gave rise to the establishment of many private oil and guano factories on the West Coast. In 1922–23 which was the last abundant year for sardines there were 647 factories on the West Coast whose output was about 32,000 tons of guano and 12,000 tons of oil valued at Rs. 36 lakhs. The station has still to carry out further investigations into the industrial possibilities of fish oil and its by-products, i.e., refinement of the oil, conversion of the scrap (residual fish) into a much more valuable product than guano, viz., fish meal, the manufacture of Turkey red oil and of medicinal oil from fish oil. The attention of the hon Member is in this connexion invited also to paragraph 4 of the Government review on the Administration Report of the Fisheries department for 192–26.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) Yes, merely as a tentative measure and pending the receipt of the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know whether the assistant in charge of the Tanur Research station is doing now any kind of research work ?"

The hon. Mr M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"He is supposed to do."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"How can a man who has no qualification do any research work ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"He has got some experience in research work."

Schools and co-operative societies conducted by the Fisheries department in Malabar and South Kanara.

*808 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of schools and co-operative societies started and conducted by the Fisheries department in Malabar and South Kanara (figures to be given separately);

(b) the number of societies that are in working order ; and

(c) whether any society has been started in South Kanara for the purchase and sale of fish or whether loans have been granted by the Government for societies in South Kanara for the purchase of boats and nets ?

A.—(a) The number of schools started and conducted by the Fisheries department is 27 in Malabar and 12 in South Kanara. Co-operative societies are not started by the Fisheries department in these districts. It is the Co-operative department which starts the Fishermen Co-operative Societies ; but the Fisheries department supervises the working of these societies. There are 43 such societies in Malabar and 21 South Kanara.

(b) Forty-one in Malabar and 21 in South Kanara.

(c) The answer is in the negative.